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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

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(Cont'd. inside front cover)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

SWEDEN FITS HYBRID CORN INTO AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY

Increasing labor costs in Sweden have made growing of fodder root crops less attractive. Seeking less costly feed crops for winter use, some farmers have turned to hybrid corn, while others are trying grass and legume crops for silage.

United States exports of seed corn to Sweden, which totaled over 45,000 pounds during 1954-55, are small compared to those to countries with warmer soils and longer growing seasons. Cold soils and cool summers restrict American varieties of hybrid corn to early maturities comparable to Wisconsin 240 and 335.

United States exports of seed corn to Sweden have ranged from 22 to 49 thousand pounds a year since 1950. By crop years the shipments in 1,000 pounds are: 1950-51 - 22; 1951-52 - 49; 1952-53 - 23; 1953-54 - 43; and 1954-55 - 45.

PAKISTAN REMOVES BAN ON RICE EXPORTS

The Government of Pakistan recently rescinded the ban of last October on rice exports from West Pakistan. In addition to the resumption of exports from the old crop, 50,000 long tons (1 long ton = 2,240 pounds) of Joshi and Kangni varieties from the 1955-56 crop have been earmarked for export.

The winter rice crop in some districts of East Pakistan has been badly damaged by insects. This crop comprises about 75 percent of the annual harvest. It has been reported that rice exports may again be prohibited from West Pakistan, should insect damage be severe.

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U. S. RICE EXPORTS CONTINUE AT HIGH LEVEL

United States rice exports in October of 1,537,000 bags (100 pounds) in terms of milled rice exceeded the heavy exports of 1,509,000 bags in September, and were 550,000 bags more than exports in October a year earlier. Principal shipments were to Japan, Cuba, and French West Africa.

See TABLE 1, page 698.

Exports during the first 3 months of the 1955-56 (August-July) marketing year totaled 3,469,000 bags, an increase of 21 percent as compared with 2,861,000 bags in the corresponding period of the year before. Exports to Japan increased sharply as compared with August-October 1954, and considerable rice was shipped to countries not taking rice from the United States in 1954, such as Indochina, French West Africa, and Bolivia.

See TABLE 2, page 699.

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OCTOBER 1955 U.S. GRASS AND LEGUME SEEDS EXPORTS DECLINE

October 1955 exports of grass and legume seeds from the United States show a sharp decrease over the same month of 1954, and during the first 4 months of the current crop year were only about one-third of the corresponding period last year. Unsettled markets throughout the world have tended to slow buying to a very low level.

UNITED STATES: Exports of grass and legume seeds, July-October, 1954-55, and October 1954-55

Kind of seed	October 1954	October 1955	July 1, 1954 to October 31, 1954	July 1, 1955 to October 31, 1955
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Alfalfa	1,352	413	2,109	1,837
Alsike	72	0	105	54
Other clovers	512	131	660	571
Fescue	267	64	462	265
Kentucky blue	166	86	193	100
Orchard	49	21	49	36
Redtop	46	64	49	77
Timothy	0	124	0	170
Other grasses	4,648	451	9,902	1,322
Total Grasses and Legumes	7,112	1,354	13,529	4,432

Table 1.-RICE: United States exports, by country of destination and by classification, October 1955 1/

Country of destination	Rough		Milled		Total (in terms of milled)
	Unmilled	In terms of milled	Not over 25% whole	Over 25% whole	
	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags
Western Hemisphere:					
Canada	71,778	46,656	13,570	22,680	82,906
Mexico	0	0	0	36	36
British Honduras	0	0	1,000	2,000	3,000
Costa Rica	123	80	0	0	80
Canal Zone	0	0	0	142	142
Bermuda	0	0	0	362	362
Cuba	1,800	1,170	81,043	350,402	432,615
Jamaica	0	0	672	81	753
Netherlands Antilles	0	0	0	2,408	2,408
Bolivia	0	0	0	55,079	55,079
Total	73,701	47,906	96,285	433,190	577,381
Europe:					
Belgium and Luxembourg	0	0	36,007	2,110	38,117
Denmark	0	0	1,000	113	1,113
German Republic	0	0	9,049	0	9,049
Netherlands	0	0	4,400	0	4,400
Sweden	0	0	422	1,276	1,698
Switzerland	0	0	0	6,720	6,720
Total	0	0	50,878	10,219	61,097
Asia:					
Saudi Arabia	0	0	0	11,247	11,247
Philippine Republic	0	0	5,511	0	5,511
Japan	0	0	236,817	435,993	672,810
Nonsei and Nonpo Islands, n.e.s.	0	0	0	125	125
Afghanistan	0	0	0	41	41
Total	0	0	242,328	447,406	689,734
Africa:					
Liberia	0	0	0	1,223	1,223
French West Africa	0	0	199,655	0	199,655
Union of South Africa	0	0	1,000	0	1,000
Total	0	0	200,655	1,223	201,878
Trust territory of the Pacific	0	0	500	3,945	4,445
Other	0	0	0	2/ 2,751	2/ 2,751
Total world	73,701	47,906	590,646	898,734	1,537,286

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Starting with January 1954, "other" includes shipments valued at less than $500 each when the number of such shipments to a country is few.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

Table 2.-RICE: United States exports, in terms of milled, to specified countries, October 1955, with comparisons [1]

Country of destination	August-July		August-October		October	
	1953-54	1954-55	1954	1955	1954	1955
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Western Hemisphere:						
Canada	633	560	165	143	109	83
British Honduras	17	33	9	7	6	3
Honduras	3	30	7	14	5	0
Haiti	2	124	48	1	47	0
Cuba	4,755	3,391	1,712	964	575	433
Netherlands Antilles	53	38	12	8	3	2
Bolivia	5	0	0	110	0	55
Colombia	314	205	132	0	54	0
Venezuela	215	84	3	[2]	[2]	0
Other countries	30	10	0	9	0	1
Total	6,027	4,475	2,088	1,256	799	577
Europe:						
Belgium & Luxembourg	206	460	126	112	31	38
Greece	11	5	0	[2]	0	0
Ireland	0	16	15	0	2	0
German Republic	29	38	2	23	0	9
Netherlands	12	71	1	4	1	4
Sweden	1	72	56	7	14	2
Switzerland	57	53	42	7	23	7
Other countries	24	[3] 99	1	1	1	1
Total	340	814	243	154	72	61
Asia:						
Indochina	0	0	0	201	0	0
Korea, Republic of	[4] 590	[2]	0	0	0	0
Japan	8,538	4,125	389	1,535	61	673
Saudi Arabia	130	136	51	21	29	11
Other countries	25	36	5	6	1	6
Total	9,283	4,297	445	1,763	91	690
Total Oceania	17	19	4	12	2	4
Liberia	67	219	79	71	22	1
French West Africa	0	0	0	200	0	200
Other Africa	6	10	0	8	0	1
Other	[5] 8	[5] 14	[5] 2	[5] 5	[5] 1	[5] 3
Total world	15,748	9,848	2,861	3,469	987	1,537

[1] Includes brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice, and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. [2] Less than 500 bags. [3] Includes 58,000 bags to Trieste and 23,000 bags to Austria. [4] Adjusted to include all programs of the Department of Defense and the International Cooperation Administration. [5] Starting with January 1954, "other" includes shipments valued at less than $500 each when the number of such shipments to a country in a given month is few.

Source: Bureau of the Census, except as noted.

CANADIAN WHEAT FLOUR EXPORTS DECLINE IN FIRST QUARTER

Canadian exports of wheat and flour in the first quarter (July-September) of the 1955-56 marketing season amounted to 60,900,000 bushels grain equivalent compared with 65,200,000 bushels during the corresponding period a year ago. The bulk of the shipments as usual consisted of wheat. These totaled 52,600,000 bushels against 54,400,000 bushels a year ago. Flour exports during this quarter amounted to 8,300,000 bushels grain equivalent against 10,800,000 bushels in the same period last season.

The over-all reduction of 6.6 percent in the combined exports of wheat and flour was due mainly to reduced exports to the Republic of Germany, Yugoslavia, Israel, Colombia, the Netherlands, Belgium, the Philippine Republic, and Norway. On the other hand, exports to Japan, the Union of South Africa, and the United States in this period were considerably higher than in the same months a year ago. The bulk of shipments to the United States consisted of wheat unfit for human consumption. (See table, opposite page.)

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URUGUAY INCREASES RICE EXPORT QUOTA

The Government of Uruguay on November 24 increased the export quota for rice during 1955 to 25,500 metric tons (1 metric ton = 2,204.6 pounds). This is an increase of 5,000 tons over the amount announced on April 27, 1955. An exchange rate was set at 3.20 pesos (31 cents) to the dollar or its equivalent in other currencies. This compares with the previous exchange rate of 2.35 pesos (43 cents).

At the same time, 16,500 tons of rice were sold to Japan at $125 per ton ($5.67 per 100 pounds) f.o.b. for shipment in December. Other sources report the c. & f. price at $158.50 ($7.19 per 100 pounds). Producing and exporting interests are of the opinion that present production costs warrant a still higher exchange rate and desire to obtain a rate of 3.4 pesos (29 cents) made retroactive for all exports.

From 6,000 to 7,000 tons of old-crop rice have already been exported. With the recent sales to Japan, total exports will be 22,500 to 23,500 tons.

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GUATEMALA ESTABLISHES AGRICULTURAL CREDIT BANK

Guatemalan Government Decree 448 establishes a new bank to make loans exclusively in the field of agriculture. Capital is to be obtained from farmers and cattlemen through a forced levy on production. Sample levies: Coffee, $2.50 per quintal exported; cotton, $1.80 per quintal produced; cattle, $2.00 per head of breed cattle slaughtered or per head of dairy cattle owned.

CANADA: Exports of wheat and flour during stated periods

Destination	July-September 1954			July-September 1955		
	Wheat	Flour	Total	Wheat	Flour	Total
	(Thousands of bushels, Grain Equivalent)					
Western Hemisphere						
United States	506	106	612	1,308	184	1,492
Br. West Indies	1/	1,293	1,293	7	1,181	1,188
Cuba	373	213	586	227	117	344
Colombia	775	318	1,093	-	85	85
Venezuela	10	1,095	1,105	35	1,061	1,096
Ecuador	645	1/	645	531	-	531
Peru	-	16	16	210	12	222
Others	10	823	833	46	931	977
Total	2,319	3,864	6,183	2,364	3,571	5,935
Europe						
Norway	990	-	990	596	-	596
United Kingdom	23,948	3,998	27,946	25,219	2,464	27,683
Ireland	441	-	441	116	-	116
Netherlands	2,531	2	2,533	1,400	-	1,400
Belgium-Luxembourg	4,223	-	4,223	3,664	-	3,664
Germany, Rep. of	8,528	112	8,640	5,404	118	5,522
Switzerland	719	-	719	412	-	412
Italy	18	12	30	221	82	303
Yugoslavia	1,836	2	1,838	-	7	7
Poland	-	-	-	364	-	364
Austria	-	-	-	425	-	425
Others	372	59	431	1,011	49	1,060
Total	43,606	4,185	47,791	38,832	2,720	41,552
Asia						
Israel	1,847	-	1,847	-	-	-
Japan	5,710	143	5,853	9,207	130	9,337
Philippines	-	1,363	1,363	-	813	813
Others	95	469	564	469	443	912
Total	7,652	1,975	9,627	9,676	1,386	11,062
Africa						
Libya	112	-	112	-	-	-
Br. West Africa	-	539	539	-	331	331
Union of South Africa	723	-	723	1,678	-	1,678
Others	-	270	270	71	282	353
Total	835	809	1,644	1,749	613	2,362
Oceania	-	18	18	-	20	20
World Total	54,412	10,851	65,263	52,621	8,310	60,931

1/ Less than 500 bushels.

U.S. TOBACCO EXPORTS, OCTOBER 1955

United States exports of unmanufactured tobacco in October 1955 totaled 85.3 million pounds, valued at $58.2 million, as compared with 98.9 million pounds, valued at $70.0 million, during October 1954. There were decreases in all types except for cigar leaf, Maryland, and Virginia fire-cured as compared with October 1954.

UNITED STATES: Exports of unmanufactured tobacco, October 1955 and January-October 1955, with comparisons (export weight)

Type	October 1954	October 1955	Percent Change	January-October 1954	January-October 1955	Percent Change
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds		1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	
Flue-cured	91,466	78,261	- 14.4	289,302	359,944	+ 24.4
Burley	2,118	1,565	- 26.1	25,835	24,005	- 7.1
Dark-fired Ky.-Tenn.	2,560	1,831	- 28.5	17,774	17,805	+ 0.2
Virginia fire-cured	176	570	+ 223.9	2,851	3,073	+ 7.8
Maryland	710	1,312	+ 84.8	6,587	6,424	- 2.5
Green River	465	5	- 98.9	1,858	1,816	- 2.3
One Sucker	68	25	- 63.2	770	1,705	+ 121.4
Cigar Wrapper	200	571	+ 185.5	2,627	3,464	+ 31.9
Cigar Binder	136	467	+ 243.4	1,263	1,295	+ 2.5
Cigar Filler	-	110	-	158	202	+ 27.8
Other	969	538	- 44.5	5,998	7,269	+ 21.2
Total	98,868	85,255	- 13.8	355,022	427,002	+ 20.3
Declared Value (million dollars)	70.0	58.2	- 16.9	237.1	280.9	+ 18.5

Compiled in Foreign Agricultural Service from records of the Bureau of the Census.

Exports of unmanufactured tobacco for the January-October 1955 period totaled 427.0 million pounds -- an increase of 20.3 percent over exports for the corresponding period in 1954 totaling 355.0 million pounds. Shipments of flue-cured during the first 10 months of 1955 totaled 359.9 million pounds -- up 24.4 percent from the 289.3 million pounds exported during the same period of 1954. Exports to the United Kingdom for the January-October 1955 period totaled 150.0 million pounds as compared with 118.7 million pounds for the January-October 1954 period, an increase of 26 percent.

Exports of flue-cured to the Republic of Germany for the first 10 months of 1955 totaled 43.8 million pounds as compared with 29.9 million pounds for the same period in 1954. There were increases in total exports for the other types of tobacco, except for Burley, Maryland, and Green River, from the first 10 months of 1954.

Exports of tobacco products, valued at $5.5 million, were slightly below October 1954. Exports of cigarettes for January-October 1955 were slightly above those for the same period a year ago. Exports of smoking tobacco in bulk were more than 50 percent larger.

UNITED STATES: Exports of tobacco products,
October 1955 and January-October 1955,
with comparisons

Product	October		Percent Change	January-October		Percent Change
	1954	1955		1954	1955	
Cigars & Cheroots (1,000 pieces)....	629	418	- 33.5	6,704	4,648	- 30.7
Cigarettes (million pieces)..	1,342	1,402	+ 4.5	12,595	12,682	+ 0.7
Chewing & Snuff (1,000 pounds)....	234	106	- 54.7	1,574	1,195	- 24.1
Smoking Tobacco in Packages (1,000 pounds)....	67	41	- 38.2	471	471	0
Smoking Tobacco in Bulk (1,000 pounds)	380	505	+ 32.9	3,493	5,321	+ 52.3
Declared Value (million dollars)	5.6	5.5	- 1.8	51.2	52.5	+ 2.5

Compiled in Foreign Agricultural Service from records of the Bureau of the Census.

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AUSTRALIAN TOBACCO ACREAGE EXPANDED: PRICES AT RECORD HIGH

Australia's 1956 tobacco harvest is expected to exceed the 1955 crop in both acreage and production. The 1955 harvest totaled 6.7 million pounds, almost 12 percent below the previous year, in spite of an acreage increase of 10.7 percent. The drop in output was due to lower yields resulting from adverse weather conditions and disease losses. Output in 1956 is forecast at 8.5 million pounds from 11,900 acres. Acreage planted is placed at 31 percent above the previous crop, while the production estimate is 26.4 percent above the 1955 harvest. Most of the increase is expected in Queensland, where a new irrigation project will bring water to a limited acreage for the 1956 crop. (Cont'd., next page.)

A goal has been established in Australia, which, if reached, would raise tobacco production for harvest in 1958 to 15 million pounds from 16,500 acres.

Prices paid for the 1955 harvest have averaged $1.29 U. S. per pound, exceeding last year's average by one-third and establishing an all-time record high for Australian leaf. Better quality leaf this season average $1.53 a pound, while some lots sold as high as $2.25. The unusually high prices have resulted from the requirement that manufacturers include a minimum of 7.5 percent domestically produced leaf in cigarettes and 17.5 percent in smoking tobacco in order to be eligible for the duty reduction of 18 pence per pound for leaf tobacco imports.

TURKISH TOBACCO MARKET OPENS: HIGHER PRICES EXPECTED

Farm sales of unmanipulated tobacco from the 1955 crop in the Aegean area of Turkey began officially with the opening of the Aegean tobacco market on December 5. Prices paid by tobacco merchants this season are expected to be significantly higher than last year as demand for Turkish leaf in world markets is at a high level.

Production of Turkish tobacco this year was more than 20 percent above the 1954 crop. Production by area (not including small quantities of flue-cured, Tombac, and Hasan Keyf) for the past 3 years is shown in the accompanying table.

Area	1953	1954	1955
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Aegean	151,902	120,536	143,299
Marmara	36,448	28,445	39,683
Black Sea	62,346	57,280	59,524
Eastern	5,824	5,843	13,228
TOTAL	256,520	212,104	255,734

Prices paid for manipulated tobacco from the 1954 crop at Izmir in the latter part of September ranged from 68 to 72 U. S. cents per pound (at the official rate of exchange) as compared with 65 to 68 cents a year earlier. Prices for manipulated tobacco at Marmara on September 26, 1955 ranged from 81 to 89 cents a pound, while prices on a comparable date last season ranged from 71 to 73 cents.

ISRAELI OUTPUT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS UP SLIGHTLY

Output of tobacco products in Israel during the January-May period of 1955 totaled 1.91 million pounds -- up 2.4 percent from the 1.87 million pounds produced during the corresponding period of 1954.

ISRAEL: Output of tobacco products, January-May 1955, with comparisons

Product	1953	1954	January-May	
			1954	1955
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Cigarettes	4,450	4,421	1,802	1,841
Cigars	11	11	4	7
Smoking tobacco	11	12	6	6
Snuff	55	62	24	30
Tombac	75	82	33	29
Total	4,602	4,588	1,869	1,913

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, August 1955.

Output of all tobacco products, except tombac, increased over the same 6 months of last year. Cigarettes alone comprised about 96 percent of the total output.

CHILE'S 1955-56 TOBACCO CROP FORECAST UP

The 1955-56 tobacco crop in Chile is forecast at 15.2 million pounds, an increase of 11 percent as compared with the 1954-55 crop of 13.6 million. Acreage of all types is expected to be higher this season. Output of flue-cured tobacco, which in the past season was reduced by frost and totaled only 639,000 pounds, is expected to reach 827,000 pounds, an increase of 29 percent. Burley production, which was only 568,000 pounds in 1954-55, is expected to increase by 86 percent and to exceed 1 million pounds in 1955-56.

Most of Chile's tobacco crop is accounted for by dark sun-cured cigar-type leaf. In the 1954-55 crop year, output of these varieties totaled 12.4 million pounds. Production this season is expected to be 7 percent higher and to amount to 13.3 million pounds.

Most of the increase in acreage is attributable to price increases for all varieties. Prices paid for flue-cured leaf in the 1954-55 season averaged 21 U. S. cents per pound (at current official rates), while for the next season the price is expected to be more than doubled at 45 cents a pound. Prices for Burley leaf averaged 8 cents last season and are estimated at 11 cents for the 1955-56 crop. Prices for dark leaf are expected to average 7.8 cents a pound or 40 percent above the 1954-55 level of 5.6 cents.

SUDANESE CIGARETTE IMPORTS CONTINUE DOWNWARD

Sudanese imports of cigarettes during the first half of 1955 continue a downward trend, evident from the 1952 record level of 1.31 million pounds. The United Kingdom continues to be the principal source, supplying about 96 percent of the total cigarette imports with most of the remainder coming from Egypt.

SUDAN: Imports of cigarettes by country of origin, with comparisons

Country of Origin	1953	1954	January-June 1954	January-June 1955
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
United Kingdom	1,208	1,111	610	574
Egypt	64	41	23	20
Other	1	-	1	-
Total	1,273	1,152	634	594

Source: Foreign Trade and Internal Statistics, July 1955.

Imports of other manufactured products are relatively insignificant. Sudanese takings of unmanufactured tobacco also are insignificant, and have averaged less than 100 pounds annually since 1949.

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BRAZIL SIGNS TRADE AND PAYMENTS AGREEMENT WITH BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG

By agreement with Brazil of November 17, 1955, Belgium and Luxembourg entered the area of limited convertibility (ACL), the other members of which are The Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands. (See Foreign Crops and Markets of August 15, 1955, and November 7, 1955.) The terms of this agreement are almost identical to those of the Brazilian-Netherlands Payments Agreement of August 16, 1955.

Brazilian exports paid for in Belgian francs shall receive treatment equal to that given to exports paid for in freely convertible currencies or in the currencies of the countries in the ACL area. Imports into Brazil paid for in the currencies of the countries participating in the multilateral payments system shall also enjoy equal treatment in Brazil. Brazil does not intend to use ACL currencies for payments of imports from the United States dollar area or for the satisfaction of other obligations in that area.

WORLD OUTPUT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS, THIRD QUARTER, 1955

Over-all factory production of dairy products decreased in the third quarter of 1955, compared with the same quarter of 1954. Production of dried milk showed a slight increase over the preceding year, but output of butter, cheese, and canned milk declined.

Growing conditions were generally good in Australia during the quarter, but in New Zealand, pasture growth was somewhat slow, affecting production. Hot, dry weather in many countries of Western Europe throughout much of the third quarter was reflected in lower milk production. In Canada, milk production was affected by high temperatures early in the quarter, but it improved in September with the arrival of more favorable weather. Milk production in the United States was somewhat higher than that of a year ago.

Factory butter production was down 4 percent compared with the same quarter a year ago. Only in Australia and New Zealand was butter production higher than that of comparable 1954. Butter output declined in the third quarter throughout the principal dairying countries of Western Europe, where milk deliveries to creameries were smaller than those for the same period a year earlier due to lower milk production. Production in both Canada and the United States also dropped slightly below the 1954 level.

Cheese production (in factories) in the third quarter was 6 percent less than that of the previous year. In Australia and New Zealand, output declined 14 percent and 16 percent, respectively. Denmark was the only country of Western Europe where factory cheese production showed an increase. In Canada, the gain in output in September was not sufficient to offset the severely reduced production in July and August. Cheese production in the United States exceeded that of a year ago.

Canned milk (condensed and evaporated) production dropped 2 percent in the four countries for which estimates of third quarter production are available. Output was up in Australia and Canada, but down in the Netherlands and the United States.

Dried milk production estimates, as reported by four countries, increased one percent in the July-September quarter, 1955, over the corresponding period of 1954. Over-all dried milk (both whole and nonfat dry milk solids) output was higher in Australia, Canada, and the United States. Production in the Netherlands was below the 1954 level.

Prospects in Australia are excellent for milk production. Pastures are in good condition; feeds are expected to be plentiful. In New Zealand, conditions are generally good, and production in October appears to have been well maintained. Grazing conditions in Switzerland are very satisfactory and winter reserves of feed are large. Dairy production in Canada is being maintained at a high level; weather conditions are reported normal.

See TABLE, next two pages.

FACTORY DAIRY PRODUCTS: Output in principal producing and exporting countries
3rd Quarter (calendar) 1955, with comparisons

Country and Product	Average 1934-38	Average 1946-50	Total 1954	1954 3rd Quarter	1954 4th Quarter	1955 1st Quarter	1955 2nd Quarter	1955 3rd Quarter	Third Quarter 1955/54
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent
BUTTER									
Canada	1/ 254,774	277,868	314,835	118,631	55,779	34,437	106,647	116,575	98
United States	1,705,240	1,301,830	2/ 1,448,688	2/ 329,129	2/ 276,504	2/ 326,385	2/ 435,125	318,305	97
Belgium	46,179	55,353	97,779	31,612	20,020	-	-	-	-
Denmark	400,660	318,697	397,710	108,908	80,909	78,263	109,128	3/ 96,600	89
Finland	61,287	4/ 61,215	112,492	33,206	21,131	21,363	-	-	-
France 5/	529,000	390,471	551,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rep. of Germany	6/7/ 560,000	492,188	668,329	2/ 186,663	138,557	134,968	187,611	-	-
Ireland	89,400	68,648	2/ 88,005	38,042	14,370	3,977	27,462	3/ 35,700	94
Netherlands	201,000	155,620	2/ 179,662	57,719	42,820	25,751	2/ 56,557	3/ 44,600	77
Norway	24,930	20,049	22,882	6,887	2,840	4,651	9,751	3/ 6,600	96
Sweden	152,769	216,442	204,095	62,949	38,896	37,805	56,252	55,207	88
Switzerland 5/	57,760	36,949	8/ 65,036	16,909	10,148	11,775	17,516	-	-
United Kingdom	44,200	23,529	51,475	13,709	5,599	4,928	18,368	-	-
Argentina	65,742	100,657	114,639	3/ 22,200	3/ 15,700	40,345	29,762	3/ 20,000	90
Union of So.Africa	9/ 27,725	44,845	73,470	14,420	19,192	25,432	17,340	-	-
Australia	7/ 415,250	354,371	397,775	2/ 76,540	160,424	118,684	65,966	3/ 93,400	122
New Zealand	7/ 366,912	346,095	408,375	80,954	178,551	2/ 124,231	35,424	82,723	102
CHEESE									
Canada	1/ 119,924	114,329	84,436	34,798	14,630	6,123	26,780	30,431	87
United States	643,234	1,156,005	2/ 1,383,104	2/ 339,183	2/ 265,279	2/ 295,540	2/ 455,820	345,550	102
Denmark	68,820	123,634	2/ 191,580	51,588	33,951	37,919	63,272	3/ 55,700	108
France 10/	3/ 584,000	11/ 424,070	714,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy 10/	523,513	491,326	741,848	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	3/ 200,000	176,926	2/ 326,503	100,362	87,623	51,800	2/ 119,562	3/ 79,000	79
Norway 12/	39,067	35,564	65,792	19,465	9,746	13,303	22,706	3/ 17,600	90
Sweden	76,059	115,005	121,845	37,539	19,437	21,032	2/ 41,654	35,225	94
Switzerland 12/	111,729	107,232	8/ 120,592	40,615	22,308	18,915	37,429	-	-
United Kingdom 5/	109,000	69,888	182,784	32,480	22,848	29,568	60,704	-	-
Argentina	67,873	203,830	198,414	3/ 45,200	3/ 44,000	53,130	41,888	3/ 33,400	74
Union of So.Africa	9/ 10,195	17,967	27,085	6,226	7,074	7,732	5,645	-	-
Australia	7/ 48,400	98,396	107,229	25,951	42,974	20,747	11,335	3/ 22,400	86
New Zealand	7/ 210,911	216,842	236,970	39,558	102,749	67,491	2/ 19,178	33,264	84

CANNED MILK									
Canada 13/	1/ 104,335	266,532	308,493	95,518	53,801	50,623	105,407	104,708	110
United States 14/	1,970,189	3,170,576	2/ 2,559,444	2/ 697,628	2/ 469,189	2/ 576,650	2/ 891,265	677,265	97
Cuba	15/ 32,564	36,655	56,196	20,076	17,094	-	-	-	-
Denmark	40,785	58,701	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
France	16/ 28,953	15/ 57,984	127,867	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	309,952	181,222	511,250	132,364	147,888	112,399	2/ 167,697	3/ 126,000	95
Switzerland	14,198	13,031	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	378,560	219,914	258,496	55,776	53,088	2/ 69,664	159,936	-	-
Argentina	17/ 3,159	15/ 11,914	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Australia	7/ 41,894	132,745	115,522	2/ 22,895	46,648	27,967	12,195	3/ 24,600	107
New Zealand	15/ 11,273	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DRIED MILK 18/									
Canada	1/ 26,079	70,876	2/ 100,405	2/ 33,890	2/ 16,775	13,134	36,233	35,263	104
United States	15/ 203,555	913,436	2/ 1,496,248	2/ 315,044	2/ 266,980	2/ 354,900	2/ 536,875	323,970	103
Belgium	5,500	6,607	34,513	11,821	3,880	-	-	-	-
Denmark	2,205	16,866	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
France	16/ 7,685	15/ 3,308	35,274	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	56,438	54,468	130,673	54,552	14,095	10,318	2/ 61,473	3/ 46,000	84
Sweden	1,351	24,566	25,862	8,503	3,623	4,118	8,889	-	-
Switzerland	7,187	10,847	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	43,098	73,848	110,432	20,832	17,248	2/ 17,248	46,592	-	-
Argentina	17/ 3,977	15/ 14,070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Australia	7/ 16,971	54,235	85,474	2/ 17,107	35,865	22,073	2/ 7,971	3/ 20,500	120
New Zealand	19/ 17,429	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1/ Average 1935-39. 2/ Revised. 3/ Estimated. 4/ Average 1948-50. 5/ Total production. 6/ Average 1935-38. 7/ Production year ending June 30. 8/ Annual production figures more complete than monthly figures used in quarterly data. 9/ Production year ending August 31. 10/ Total cheese, and includes cheese made from the milk of sheep and goats. 11/ For 1948. 12/ Total cheese, and includes cheese made from the milk of goats. 13/ Both bulk and case goods. 14/ Evaporated whole and condensed whole case goods only. (Estimates of bulk types discontinued). 15/ Less than a 5-year average. 16/ For 1937. 17/ For 1939. 18/ Total dried whole milk and dried skim milk for human consumption. 19/ For 1938.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, Reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U.S. Representatives Abroad and other information. (December 19, 1955).

DOMESTIC FRUIT CONSUMPTION TREND IN ITALY CONTINUES UPWARD

Increased production of fruits in Italy is being accompanied by an upward trend in domestic consumption. The total amount of fresh fruit, citrus and deciduous, available for annual consumption was approximately 2.6 million short tons in 1947-50. In 1951-54, approximately 3.8 million short tons were available for consumption. The annual per capita consumption of fruit has increased from a prewar 1934-38 average of 57 pounds to a 1953-54 average of 152 pounds. This upward consumption trend is expected to continue in 1956.

FOREIGN RAISIN CROP SMALLEST SINCE 1951

As a result of unfavorable weather, foreign production of raisins in 1955 was considerably less than in the preceding 3 years of bumper crops. The 1955 commercial production of raisins abroad is estimated at 249,700 short tons, or 14 percent less than the estimated 1954 crop of 289,300 tons. Of the major foreign producers, only Iran had a larger crop than in 1954. Excessive rain at drying time in Australia and Greece, as well as hot summer winds in Greece, wiped out earlier prospects for another large crop in those countries. Spring frosts were responsible for the reduced production in Turkey.

RAISINS: Estimated commercial production in specified countries, average 1948-52, annual 1952-55

Country	Average 1948-52	1952	1953	1954	1955 1/
			Short tons		
Australia:					
Lexia	5,520	6,800	12,600	15,700	10,600
Sultana	49,280	58,300	78,100	69,400	65,300
Cyprus	5,400	5,300	7,200	5,500	-
Greece	32,500	38,000	50,000	46,000	44,000
Iran	45,000	50,000	54,000	55,000	61,000
Spain	10,900	10,000	15,200	15,000	-
Turkey	74,000	72,000	77,000	72,000	44,000
Union of South Africa	8,500	8,900	9,800	10,700	9,400
Foreign Total	230,200	250,200	303,900	289,300	2/249,700
United States	235,260	287,800	232,000	167,000	-
Grand Total	472,960	538,000	535,900	456,300	-

1/ Preliminary

2/ The 1948-52 average production for Cyprus and Spain was used in arriving at "Foreign Total".

FOREIGN CURRANT CROP SMALLEST SINCE 1945

In consequence of unfavorable weather conditions in Greece and Australia, the 1955 commercial currant harvest abroad was the smallest in 10 years. The 1955 commercial production is estimated at 76,700 short tons, or 18 percent less than the 93,100-ton crop in 1954, and 27 percent below the 1948-52 average of 105,600 tons.

CURRANTS: Estimated commercial production in specified countries, average 1948-52, annual 1952-55

Country	Average 1948-52	1952	1953	1954	1955 1/
	- - - Short tons - - -				
Australia	16,600	12,300	18,800	15,000	12,500
Greece	88,000	86,000	85,000	77,000	63,000
Union of South Africa	1,000	800	1,100	1,100	1,200
Total	105,600	99,100	104,900	93,100	76,700

1/ Preliminary

BEAN IMPORTS NEEDED IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Importers in El Salvador are currently calculating bean import requirements for 1956 to supplement the domestic crop and to prevent a repetition of last summer's disastrous food shortage. Imports of red beans will be wanted.

Estimates of quantities needed are not available but it is reported that there may also be shortages in neighboring countries from where imports have been purchased in past years.

EUROPEAN POTATO CROP SMALLER

The Western European potato crop is about 10 percent below the very large crop of last year and the Eastern European crop is about 15 percent smaller. Dry weather during the summer months in the British Isles, the Scandinavian countries, and along the North Sea Coast was the principal cause of the smaller production.

Prices are higher than those prevailing last season and trading among the OEEC countries has increased. Some tentative contracts have been made by United Kingdom dealers at $1.50 to $1.75 a hundred pounds, f.o.b. France for table potatoes. There have been reports of table potatoes being sold at $1.50 a hundred pounds, f.o.b. Republic of Germany points.

VEGETABLE PROSPECTS IN CHILE

Weather was excellent in November in Chile for vegetable production. As of November 25, nearly all of the onions had been planted. Total acreage is expected to be less than last year because of low prices. Melon acreage is expected to be increased.

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U. K. IMPORTERS LIST FOR CHEESE AVAILABLE

After the announcement that the United Kingdom had liberalized import quotas of cheese from North America (See Foreign Crops and Markets, July 18, 1955), many exporters complained of their inability to determine United Kingdom importers holding import licenses for the cheese. A complete list of cheese dealers in the United Kingdom holding such licenses is now available upon request to the Foreign Agricultural Service.

SWEDEN ACTS TO MAINTAIN FARM INCOME: DAIRY PRICES INCREASED

Poor crop production in Sweden in 1955 resulted in a reduction of anticipated Swedish marketings of crop and livestock products, and increased costs due to larger feed imports. A recent revision in agricultural income and cost calculations, the basis of agricultural parity in Sweden, showed an anticipated income deficit of over $97.6 million for the 1955-56 regulation year. After deduction of $31.9 million, the 4-percent-of-goal income agreed upon by farmers as self-risk, the remaining $65.7 million required compensation action. This remainder corresponds to about 8 percent of the gross agricultural income.

Negotiations between farm organizations and the government resulted in increased prices, commencing November 9, for milk and dairy products, meat, potatoes, and eggs. This will result in an additional $46.2 million increase in the farmers' gross income.

The role that dairy product prices will play is revealed in the following increased prices: Producers will receive $3.65 per cwt. for milk, an increase of 35 cents. The consumer price of fluid milk rose to 5.26 cents per pound, an increase of 0.5 cent per pound. The retail price of light cream is 25.43 cents per pound, a rise of 0.9 cent per pound, and the retail price of butter rose 7.0 cents to 67.96 cents per pound. Cheese prices are not fixed in Sweden.

The total of the price increases will contribute over 37 percent of the $65.7 million total compensation to farmers. Increased prices on other products, principally meat, will contribute about one-third, and the remainder will be furnished as a $19.5 million government subsidy, most of which will go to farmers hardest hit by the poor crops. The cost of living will increase by about one percent because of an approximate 3-percent increase in food costs to consumers.

BUTTER EXPORTS BY FRENCH AFRICA INCREASE

Butter exports of the Chad Territory, French Equatorial Africa, ranked fifth in total export value during the first 6 months of 1955. In the January-June period of this year, according to the publication France Equateur, exports were recorded of just under 800,000 pounds, compared with export sales of only 143,000 pounds in the same period in 1954. Nigeria was the largest buyer of the butter, taking 502,000 pounds.

DESTINATION OF AUSTRALIA'S BUTTER EXPORTS IN 1954-55

Australia's butter exports during 1954-55 marketing year were up almost 60 percent above the preceding year; total exports in the 1954-55 period amounted to just over 140 million pounds.

The United Kingdom continued to take the bulk of Australia's exports, and receipts by the United Kingdom of 122 million pounds were 87.5 percent larger than those of the 1953-54 marketing season. Other leading outlets were Singapore, Ceylon, and Hong Kong. The U.S.S.R., an important buyer in 1953-54, took only a negligible amount during the past season.

AUSTRALIA: Exports of butter, 1954-55, compared with 1953-54

Destination	1953-54	1954-55
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
United Kingdom	65,082	122,048
Singapore	2,605	3,041
Ceylon	1,956	1,936
Hong Kong	2,021	1,549
Malaya	818	1,189
Egypt	1,072	943
British West India	1,123	918
Philippines, Rep. of	361	643
Japan	1,781	520
India	632	486
Peru	22	111
U.S.S.R.	4,480	(negligible)
Others	6,077	6,633
Total	88,030	140,017

A favorable outlook for exports of butter to Western Europe generally would seem to be indicated by the sale at the end of October of 1.1 million pounds of Australian butter to France.

CUBA'S PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS OF DAIRY PRODUCTS

The bulk of the butter consumed in Cuba is produced locally. Only a small quantity is imported. Most of the domestically produced butter is made in creameries; very little is made on farms. Several types of cheeses of good quality are manufactured in Cuba. About half are produced in commercial plants. They include cream cheese, Patagras (Gouda), and Swiss types. In addition, a white cheese (queso blanco) is made on farms. Cuba also depends on some imports of cheese to meet consumption requirements.

CUBA: Production of dairy products, 1954 and 1955 (forecast)

Product	1954	1955
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Butter	5,071	5,181
Cheese	11,180	11,243
Condensed milk	57,004	59,524
Evaporated milk	3,430	3,527
Dried milk	4,004	3,968

Condensed milk is one of the most important dairy products manufactured in Cuba. Only a relatively small amount is imported. On the other hand, domestic production of evaporated milk is insignificant. Consumption requirements of evaporated milk are met by imports, largely from the United States. Both production and imports of dried milk are comparatively small.

CUBA: Imports of dairy products, 1954 and 1955 (forecast)

Product	1954	1955
Butter	293	353
Cheese	2,487	2,535
Condensed milk	8,206	6,614
Evaporated milk	20,979	24,251
Dried milk	615	750

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COCONUT OIL TRIED IN RECOMBINED MILK IN PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC

In October, 1955, a plant was put into operation in the Philippine Republic to reconstitute powdered milk by using coconut oil for fat content. The plant has an 86,000-pound daily capacity. The product, marketed largely through institutional channels, is delivered in 5-gallon containers and distributed through milk dispensing machines. Early indications show a general acceptance of the milk, which retails for 10 centavos per 6-ounce glass--about 28.4 cents per quart.

Other dairy companies have expressed interest in the operation; and if plans for more recombining plants materialize, the Philippine Republic may increase purchases of American non-fat dried milk solids within the next 2 years.

Estimated import figures from the Central Bank indicate that 1955 Philippine takings of all dairy products will be above last year. The share coming from the United States will also be up in all products except condensed milk (see Foreign Crops and Markets, September 19, 1955).

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BEEF AND PORK SITUATION IN CUBA

Cuban beef production was curtailed in late 1954 and the first half of 1955, due to an unusually long dry season. The most critical shortage of beef occurred in mid-1955. To alleviate the situation the Government lifted all taxes and duties on imports for about 3 months. Most of the beef imported during this period was to supply markets in Havana that sell quality beef. Although imports of fresh beef increased over a year earlier, they were insufficient to relieve the over-all shortage.

Production of high-quality beef prior to January 1951 was discouraged because of a ceiling price of 12.5 cents per pound for all live cattle, regardless of condition. When the ceiling price was imposed the government established two grades of beef approximating United States Choice and Good, and exempted them from price controls. Since then there has developed a small but increasing demand for quality beef. However, a considerable amount of promotional and educational effort will be required to establish a substantial market for quality beef.

Cured pork is one of the most important agricultural commodities imported by Cuba. The United States usually supplies all but a negligible portion of these imports. Lower prices have encouraged imports of this product. Imports in 1954 were more than double the quantity received in 1953. With prices still lower, imports in 1955 are expected to be significantly higher than in 1954.

U.S. COTTON EXPORTS SHOW SLIGHT SEASONAL GAIN IN OCTOBER 1955

Exports of cotton from the United States in October 1955 amounted to 202,000 bales of 500 pounds gross (192,000 running bales) showing a slight seasonal gain over September exports of 122,000 bales, but still only about half of the volume of exports last year. Exports in October 1954 were 366,000 bales (351,000 running bales). Total exports for the 3-month period, August-October 1955, amounted to 387,000 bales (368,000 running bales) as compared with 773,000 bales (740,000 running bales) in the similar period of 1954.

Practically all of the decline in the August-October 1955 period was in exports to European countries, as those to Japan and Canada were not much lower than in the corresponding months a year ago. The sharpest drop was in exports to France, the Republic of Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom. (See table, opposite page.)

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U. K. BUYS NETHERLANDS BACON

Negotiations for purchase of bacon from the Netherlands have been completed, according to an announcement by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food of the United Kingdom.

Under terms of this agreement the United Kingdom will import from the Netherlands 500 to 700 tons of bacon per week at a price of not less than 29.1 cents per pound. According to the press the British will refund to the Netherlands all revenue received by the wholesalers in excess of 32.8 cents per pound. This agreement is similar to the British-Danish bacon agreement.

GERMAN REPUBLIC MEAT SITUATION

The June 3, 1955, livestock census of the Republic of Germany showed an increase of 2 million hogs over the 11.7 million reported a year earlier. Most of an expected 380 million-pound increase in meat production will be in pork. Beef and veal production is likely to be about 22 million pounds larger than last year. On the basis of the average 1954-55 domestic meat consumption, domestic production should be adequate to meet market requirements.

According to some sources, it is anticipated that imports of meat may be 25 percent below those of last year. However imports of variety meats (offal) are expected to remain near last year's level.

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MEAT AND LIVESTOCK TRADE NEWS BRIEFS: Unrefined tallow may be imported into Ceylon on the basis of individual licenses, according to a recent announcement of the Controller of Imports......Traders of the Republic of Germany may now engage in futures transactions in hides on the New York Futures Exchange, according to an announcement by the Ministry of Economics.

UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton by countries of destination, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49; annual 1953 and 1954; August-October 1954-55 and 1955-56

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1				August-October	
	Averages					
	1935-39	1945-49	1953	1954	1954-55	1955-56
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Austria	0	1/ 36	42	15	4	3
Belgium-Luxembourg	169	131	68	66	18	2
Czechoslovakia	65	57	0	0	0	0
Denmark	33	14	23	21	5	0
Finland	35	21	10	13	0	13
France	662	575	475	416	122	31
Germany, Rep. of	511	340	389	350	93	20
Italy	442	489	269	249	65	16
Netherlands	107	131	104	95	19	2/
Norway	17	7	14	12	2	0
Poland and Danzig	180	69	0	0	0	0
Portugal	36	2/	0	11	0	0
Spain	108	69	167	197	1	15
Sweden	115	12	43	51	6	1
Switzerland	11	26	24	37	19	6
United Kingdom	1,346	488	422	421	114	27
Yugoslavia	17	47	40	103	12	1
Other Europe	31	3/ 33	10	9	0	2
Total Europe	3,885	2,545	2,100	2,066	480	137
Canada	301	275	237	307	58	31
Chile	9	20	27	10	4	4
Colombia	20	24	7	2	1	2
Cuba	11	16	20	19	8	1
India	52	86	161	61	11	2/
China	117	401	0	0	0	0
French Indochina	22	6	16	0	0	0
Indonesia	2/	5	22	27	6	4
Japan	1,142	585	1,005	678	125	120
Korea, Republic of	4/	5/ 48	96	170	29	27
Taiwan (Formosa)	4/	1	110	120	22	34
Australia	9	7	45	52	12	7
Other countries	21	46	6/ 68	7/ 73	17	20
Total 500-lb. Bales	5,589	4,065	3,914	3,585	773	387
Total Running Bales	5,300	3,917	3,761	3,447	740	368

1/ 4-year average. 2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Includes Greece 21. 4/ If any, included in "Other countries." 5/ 3-year average. 6/ Israel 12, Ethiopia 11. 7/ Israel 20, French Morocco 11.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

AUSTRIA'S IMPORTS OF U. S. COTTON DECLINE IN 1954-55

Austria's imports of United States cotton amounted to 28,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in the August-July 1954-55 marketing year, representing a sharp decline of 44 percent from the 50,000 bales imported from the United States in 1953-54. Total imports from all sources, however, dropped only by about 5 percent from the previous year, amounting to 96,000 bales in 1954-55 and 101,000 in 1953-54. Increased imports from Brazil, Mexico, Syria, Turkey, and the U.S.S.R. offset the reduced imports from the United States.

AUSTRIA: Imports of cotton from major countries of origin; average 1934-38; annual 1952-54; August-September 1954-55 and 1955-56

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1				August-Sept.	
	Average 1934-38	1952	1953	1954	1954-55	1955-56
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Belgian Congo	11	1/	0	1/	0	0
Brazil	6	1/	7	9	1	1
Egypt	27	9	26	21	5	2
India and Pakistan	25	7	6	5	1/	1/
Mexico	2/	2	1/	4	1	1/
Peru	2/	1/	1/	3	1/	1
Syria	2/	1/	1/	6	0	1
Turkey	2/	4	4	8	0	1/
United Kingdom	2/	5	0	0	0	0
United States	94	46	50	28	5	3
U.S.S.R.	2/	2/	1	5	0	2
Other countries	4	6	7	7	1	3
Total	167	79	101	96	13	13

1/ Less than 500 bales. 2/ If any, included in "Other countries".
Source: Association of Austrian Cotton Spinners and Weavers.

Extension of a cotton credit to Austria by the Export-Import Bank of Washington, and the Public Law 480 program for purchase of cotton with local currency are expected to provide a market for about 40,000 bales of United States cotton in 1955-56. A recent Austro-Soviet trade agreement provides for Austrian imports of approximately 18,000 bales of Soviet cotton during the 1955-56 year.

Cotton consumption in Austria during 1954-55 was comparatively high, amounting to 107,000 bales, an increase of 13 percent over the 95,000 bales consumed in 1953-54. Consumption has reportedly been slowing down slightly in recent months because of slower domestic and foreign demand for textiles. This has caused operators to utilize mill capacity less fully than a year ago.

Increasing competition in foreign textile markets, as well as liberalization during 1954-55 of imports from other member countries of the European Payments Union are factors in the reduced demand for Austrian textiles. Large quantities of foreign textiles are currently being sold in the domestic textile market for the first time in many years.

Mill stocks in Austria on August 1, 1955, were estimated at 20,000 bales, down considerably from the 31,000 bales held a year earlier, to reflect the increase of consumption over imports. Stocks of United States cotton were down to 3,600 bales on August 1, 1955, as compared with 13,800 held a year ago.

AUSTRALIA'S COTTON IMPORTS DIP SLIGHTLY IN 1954-55

Australia's cotton imports in the August-July 1954-55 marketing year amounted to 88,000 bales (500 pounds gross) only a slight drop from the 92,000 bales imported in 1953-54. Increased imports from the United States, however, marked the current period, amounting to 54,000 bales in 1954-55 or 40 percent higher than imports of 38,000 bales from that source in 1953-54. Increased imports from Brazil were also noted in the current period to contrast with reduced quantities imported from Pakistan and Egypt. (Text cont'd., next page.)

AUSTRALIA: Cotton imports by country of origin:
average 1939-43; annual 1950-54

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1					
	Average 1939-43 1/	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Brazil	2	18	24	2	2	12
Egypt	5	11	9	11	11	1
India	28	9	2	4	5	1
Pakistan	2/	50	7	22	34	18
Peru	3/	1	3/	3/	1	1
United States	13	3/	45	13	38	54
Other countries	8	3	1	1	1	1
Total	56	92	88	53	92	88

1/ Fiscal year average. 2/ Included with India. 3/ Less than 500 bales.

Source: Department of Trade and Customs.

Australia's cotton consumption in 1954-55 amounted to 89,000 bales, or about 5 percent higher than consumption of 85,000 bales in 1953-54. The use of cotton in other than the cotton milling industry is included in these totals, and is estimated at 2,000 bales annually, most of which is used in blending by woolen mills.

A recent change in Australia's import policy will enable cotton importers to purchase cotton in the cheapest markets regardless of country of origin. In the past they could purchase cotton from dollar areas only if it was unavailable elsewhere at reasonable prices.

Australia produces only a small fraction of its cotton requirements. Production in 1954-55 amounted to approximately 4,000 bales as compared with 3,000 in 1953-54. The Government is encouraging the increase of cotton production and is planning to distribute seed for a possible area of 30,000 acres for next year's crop. Acreage in 1954-55 was estimated at 18,000, but unfavorable climatic conditions reduced the early estimates of the crop. Cotton stocks on August 1, 1955, were estimated at 27,000 bales, declining only slightly from the 25,000 bales held a year earlier.

U.K. COMBINES COTTON AND SILK PROMOTION

A silk and cotton exhibit sponsored by the British Cotton Board was held in Manchester, England, from October 18 to November 19, 1955, to show the best products of these two textile industries, and also to demonstrate new fabrics made from silk and cotton mixtures. The cotton industry hopes to stimulate domestic and foreign trade by means of such market-development projects, to promote the use of cotton in fashion fabrics.

TRANSSHIPMENTS OF MEXICAN COTTON CONTINUE UPWARD TREND

Transshipments of Mexican cotton through United States ports, amounting to 81,000 bales in August, and 172,000 in September 1955, continued the upward trend of recent months -- increasing 10 percent over the comparable months of 1954. Transshipments during August-July 1954-55 were 939,000 bales or 35 percent higher than in 1953-54.

Principal destinations of Mexican cotton moving through United States ports during August-September 1955, with comparable 1954 figures in parentheses were: Republic of Germany 88,000 bales (44,000); the Netherlands 32,000 (25,000); Belgium 30,000 (38,000); Japan 26,000 (64,000); the United Kingdom 24,000 (23,000); Switzerland 12,000 (10,000); and Sweden 11,000 (5,000). Increases for the current period were noted for all countries, with the exception of Belgium and Japan. The most marked decline was for Japan.

Transshipment data for Mexican cotton include cotton linters, waste, and hull fiber. They do not include shipments from Mexican ports direct to foreign ports, or rail shipments through the United States to Canada.

WORLD COTTONSEED PRODUCTION FORECAST AT NEW HIGH

World production of cottonseed during 1955-56 is tentatively forecast by the Foreign Agricultural Service at 19.5 million short tons, on the basis of the preliminary estimate of lint production.[1] This volume of production would represent an all-time high, exceeding last year's outturn by almost a million tons or 5 percent.

The expected record output of cottonseed together with record world crops of soybeans and peanuts indicates a large supply of edible oils from these crops. The increase in these major edible oils, accounted for to a large degree by the increase in United States production, probably is sufficient to offset the indicated decline in olive, sunflower, and sesame oils.

The anticipated increase in cottonseed production from 1954-55 is due largely to the large crop in the United States, which accounts for about one-third of the total production. However, increases also are foreseen in most of the major producing areas -- with the exception of India. The increase in cotton production and the resulting increase in seed is explained by increased acreage in all countries except the United States. Also, an uptrend in yields per acre exists in all countries -- including the United States.

North American cottonseed production is expected to be about 8 percent larger than in 1954-55. In the United States, if the ratio of lint to cottonseed for the 1955 crop is the same as the average for the past 5 years, production would be 6,043,000 tons or 6 percent larger than from the previous crop. Under the official acreage-control program, area harvested for cotton was 2.4 million acres less than a year ago. However, as a result of favorable weather and growth factors, cotton yields averaged 22 percent higher than last year's record. Cottonseed production has increased sharply in Mexico and in Central American producing countries in recent years. In Mexico large new areas have been brought under irrigation and planted to cotton; and in Central America acreage to cotton has been increased by plowing up pastureland and clearing former jungle areas.

Cottonseed production in Communist countries, particularly the Soviet Union and China, also appears to have increased substantially in recent years.

A decided uptrend in production in the postwar period has occurred in Iran, Syria, and Turkey -- but output in 1955 varied little from the previous year. India's production, estimated at 2,352,000 tons, is slightly less than in the previous year. However, output in India has nearly doubled in the past 10 years, with the result that production has regained the prewar level. Whereas only a relatively small proportion of India's cottonseed has been crushed for oil in past years, increased crushing is envisaged in the future. This would indicate that larger quantities of cottonseed oil will be available for export during the coming years. (See table, next page. Text continues, p. 723.)

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[1] See Foreign Crops and Markets, November 7, 1955. Production of cottonseed in the United States, however, is based on the December 1 estimate of lint production.

COTTONSEED: Production in specified countries and the world, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1952-55

Continent and country	Year beginning August 1 1/					
	Average		1952	1953	1954 2/	1955 2/
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
NORTH AMERICA						
El Salvador	2	10	23	27	43	62
Mexico	160	277	600	581	854	984
United States	5,554	4,873	6,190	6,748	5,709	6,043
Haiti	12	6	4	4	4	-
Total 3/	5,735	5,175	6,865	7,435	6,740	7,260
EUROPE						
Greece	39	27	57	71	97	140
Italy	11	6	17	19	20	21
Spain	5	9	31	39	46	58
Bulgaria 4/	19	11	-	-	-	-
Rumania 4/	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total 3/	75	65	130	185	230	285
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	1,640	1,117	-	-	-	-
ASIA						
Iran	91	45	88	128	147	147
Syria	15	17	111	117	195	195
Turkey	126	137	352	325	332	344
Afghanistan	27	9	35	34	50	-
Burma	54	18	62	53	48	-
China (incl. Manchuria)	1,593	1,086	1,624	1,792	1,736	-
India	5/ 2,984	1,290	1,683	2,089	2,380	2,352
Indonesia	5	2	-	1	3	-
Pakistan	5/	522	778	620	663	714
Korea 6/	101	45	38	38	38	-
Thailand	4	14	17	21	21	-
Total (excl. U.S.S.R.) 3/	5,015	3,195	4,810	5,245	5,645	5,790
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina	147	218	293	324	270	-
Brazil	935	649	749	703	782	-
Colombia	12	14	27	49	65	69
Paraguay	20	24	27	32	29	-
Peru	202	164	240	254	272	264
Venezuela	6	6	6	7	7	5
Total 3/	1,330	1,080	1,350	1,375	1,430	1,520
AFRICA AND OCEANIA						
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	132	131	206	214	217	-
Belgian Congo	87	99	106	122	115	-
Tanganyika	25	19	33	21	42	38
Uganda	143	116	136	169	128	-
Egypt	1,007	778	1,093	780	853	964
French Equatorial Africa	22	53	66	66	77	-
French West Africa	16	7	14	14	15	-
Mozambique	7/ 18	53	94	74	71	77
Nigeria	19	24	46	69	87	92
Angola	7	12	15	15	15	13
Australia	5	-	2	2	2	-
Total 3/	1,500	1,305	1,850	1,585	1,665	1,810
World total	15,295	11,940	16,920	18,465	18,495	19,450

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries. 4/ Figures from 1943 to date are not comparable with prewar figures because of boundary changes. 5/ 1935-39 figure for India includes Pakistan. 6/ Figures from 1941 to date are for South Korea only. 7/ Exports.

Foreign Agricultural Service. United States figures were compiled from official records; figures for other countries were calculated from lint-production estimates.

Production in South America is expected to be up possibly about 6 percent, with indicated expansion in Brazil and Argentina greater than the slight decline in Peru.

In Africa, cottonseed production may be roughly 10 percent larger than in 1954-55. A 13-percent increase is foreseen in Egypt, where production has virtually regained the prewar level. The notable expansion which has occurred in Nigeria in the postwar period is expected to become even more significant within a few years. (See table, opposite page.)

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INDONESIAN COPRA, PALM EXPORTS DOWN

Indonesia's exports of copra during 1955 are estimated at 221,250 long tons or about 71,000 tons less than in 1954. Exports from January to September totaled 184,777 tons compared with 226,315 tons in the same period of 1954. Through August of the current year the major markets were as follows: Singapore--42,959 tons; Japan--25,000; Republic of Germany--26,745; the Netherlands--17,849; Penang--14,737; China--11,823; Norway--5,500; Sweden--5,000; and Poland--2,953 tons. Indonesian exports of copra are reported to be meeting stiff competition by Philippine copra in European markets.

The Copra Foundation usually buys about 394,000 tons of copra annually and exports about 197,000 tons. This year purchases are expected to amount to 345,000 tons, and exports to about 123,000 tons. Around 787,000 tons of copra are used annually by domestic oil mills, soap factories, farms, and other consumers.

The local wholesale price of copra on November 21 was 240 rupiahs per 100 kilograms or the equivalent of $214 per long ton converted at the exchange rate of 11.4 rupiahs to U. S. $1.00.

Palm oil production in 1955 is estimated at 188,500 short tons compared with 185,545 last year. During the first 8 months production totaled 116,450 tons or about the same as in the comparable period a year ago. For the year exports are estimated at 165,000 tons or about 7 percent above last year. However, through August shipments amounted to 63,847 tons or one-fourth less than in the first 8 months of 1954.

Palm kernel production this year is estimated at 48,500 tons compared with 47,715 tons in 1954. Production in the first 8 months was 26,000 tons or 4,600 tons less than in the same period of 1954. Exports for the year are estimated at 47,000 tons -- about the 1954 level. During the first 8 months exports were 25,708 tons or 9 percent less than in the same months last year.

Local wholesale prices on November 21 were as follows: Palm oil -- 280 rupiahs per 100 kilograms ($223 per short ton) and palm kernels -- 240 rupiahs ($191).

CEYLON: Copra and coconut oil exports, average 1935-39, annual 1954, July-September 1954-55 and January-September 1954-55

(Long tons)

Country of destination	Copra						Coconut oil					
	Average 1935-39	1954 1/	July-Sept. 1/		Jan.-Sept. 1/		Average 1935-39	1954 1/	July-Sept. 1/		Jan.-Sept. 1/	
			1954	1955	1954	1955			1954	1955	1954	1955
Canada	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,523	5,191	650	3,722	3,943	10,298
West Indies	-	-	-	-	-	-	881	-	-	-	-	-
Denmark	1,605	-	-	-	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-
France	354	-	-	-	-	-	347	100	100	-	100	200
German Republic	2/1,482	-	-	-	-	-	2/1,200	647	-	1,765	647	4,113
Greece	1,526	-	-	-	-	-	120	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	6,541	-	-	-	-	-	1,724	17,001	5,200	5,357	12,150	15,178
Netherlands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,186	1,850	3,539	5,758	10,345
Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,573	2,019	50	21	2,019	102
Switzerland	-	-	-	-	-	-	84	1,038	250	627	323	1,251
United Kingdom	420	-	-	-	-	-	14,160	6,110	2,350	5,182	5,149	8,515
Other Europe	4,573	-	-	-	-	-	5,913	626	550	353	541	363
China	-	-	-	-	-	-	3/	10,000	6,200	-	8,000	2,200
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	-	-	146	155	50	74	148	114
India	42,553	39,189	14,288	24,516	24,105	38,090	10,769	11,968	2,550	3,400	9,023	9,516
Iraq	20	115	35	44	60	639	315	403	50	-	222	70
Pakistan	-	6,568	1,135	299	5,157	491	-	1,322	100	821	362	4,186
Israel	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	50	-	-	50	-
Syria	60	-	-	-	-	-	164	38	-	-	38	24
Other Asia	360	149	9	10	76	125	2,406	3,499	1,150	101	2,687	1,473
Egypt	425	-	-	-	-	-	2,433	790	150	1,013	460	1,872
Un. of So. Africa	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,597	162	-	39	119	272
Other countries	8	4	2	27	4	30	3,608	1,610	500	527	1,179	1,140
Total	59,927	46,025	15,469	24,896	29,402	39,375	59,013	68,915	21,750	26,591	52,918	71,232

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Total Germany. 3/ Less than .5 ton.

CEYLON'S COCONUT OIL EXPORTS THROUGH SEPTEMBER GREATER THAN FOR ALL OF '54

Ceylon's exports of coconut oil during the third quarter of 1955 were 26,591 long tons, as compared with approximately 21,750 tons during the same period in 1954. This brought the total export figure for the January-September period to 71,232 tons, which is 3 percent more than the 68,915 tons exported during the entire year of 1954. As shown by the table on opposite page, the principal buyer of Ceylon's coconut oil in this quarter was Italy. Communist China, which took 6,200 tons during the third quarter in 1954, made an inquiry concerning purchases but no transaction took place because of price considerations.

Copra exports for the third quarter were 24,896 tons, up considerably from the 7,687 tons exported during the second quarter of 1955 and from the 15,469 tons exported during the third quarter of 1954. This increase was made up almost entirely of increased exports to India, the largest buyer of Ceylon's copra. Exports through September of 1955 totaled 39,375 tons, of which 38,090 tons, or 97 percent, went to India. During the January-September period in 1954 India took 24,105 tons, or 82 percent of the 29,402 tons exported. The increase in copra exports to India is largely a result of (1) limitations imposed by the Indian government on the importation of coconuts and coconut oil, which caused Indian Oil Millers to increase copra purchases; and (2) an increase in the number of licenses granted by the Indian government for the import of copra.

Exports of desiccated coconut during the third quarter were 17,713 tons, compared with 12,542 tons during the second quarter. This increase is said to reflect seasonal purchases by European buyers for the preparation of Christmas confections. The principal purchasers during the third quarter were the United Kingdom (4,396 tons), the Republic of Germany (3,507 tons), and Italy (2,307 tons). Desiccated coconut exports were down compared with the third quarter of 1954 when 20,082 tons were exported.

Also reflecting seasonal purchases were the exports of fresh coconuts, which were 3.9 million nuts during the third quarter. This is up considerably from the 1.0 million nuts exported during the second quarter of 1955, and up slightly from the 3.8 million exported during the third quarter of 1954. The principal purchasers of fresh coconuts were the Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom, and Italy.

Informed sources continue to estimate Ceylon's annual coconut production at roughly 2 billion nuts in 1955. The total estimated production at the end of the third quarter was approximately 1.8 billion. Of this total, 778 million nuts were estimated to have been produced in the third quarter, as compared with 661 million in the same period in 1954.

(Cont'd., next page.)

Wholesale prices for coconut oil, copra, and desiccated coconut during the third quarter were at slightly higher levels than those prevailing in the second quarter of 1955. Coconut oil and copra followed a similar, though apparently unrelated, price pattern while desiccated coconut prices, affected by seasonal purchases, were distinct. Coconut oil closed the quarter at 945 rupees ($198.45 per long ton. Copra which opened at 145 rupees per candy of 560 pounds ($121.80 per long ton) closed slightly lower at 143.50 rupees ($120.54 per long ton). Desiccated coconut closed at 0.35½ rupees (7½ cents) per pound.

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PHILIPPINE COPRA, COCONUT OIL STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER REVISED

Philippine copra and coconut oil exports for November, which were published as a late news item in Foreign Crops and Markets, December 12, 1955, have been revised. Copra exports totaled 70,749 tons, with the following country breakdown: United States--20,114 tons (Atlantic-2,677, Gulf-1,000, Pacific-16,437); Belgium--1,500; Denmark--4,000; Germany-3,000; the Netherlands--22,935; Norway--1,000; Europe unspecified--5,500; Lebanon--700; Colombia--5,500; Venezuela--3,500; and South America unspecified--3,000. Coconut oil amounted to 5,688 tons. Shipments were as follows: United States--5,238 tons (Atlantic); and Europe unspecified--450.

SPAIN'S OLIVE OIL PRODUCTION 10 PERCENT BELOW LAST YEAR

Production of olive oil in Spain during the 1955-56 season is tentatively estimated at about 300,000 short tons by the Foreign Agricultural Service. This is 10 percent below last year's crop of 335,000 tons (revised) and at 20 percent below average. Even so, Spain is in a relatively more favorable position than other Mediterranean olive oil producers which, with the exception of Portugal, are experiencing a uniformly bad crop year.

Current estimates of olive oil production in Spain vary considerably. The trade predicts a crush ranging from 220,000 to 300,000 tons, while semi-official sources expect 340,000 tons.

Domestic edible oil requirements are calculated at about 385,000 tons, and Spain plans to export over 30,000 tons of its olive oil in 1956. Thus large imports of seed oils will become necessary, particularly since stocks on hand from the last olive crop and from imports are said to be relatively small. Spain is reportedly hopeful of purchasing these import requirements from the United States under Public Law 480. Imminent arrivals of United States soybean oil recently contracted for under this law are expected to help ease the current oil shortage.

U. S. EXPORTS OF FATS AND OILS AGAIN AT RECORD HIGH

United States exports of fats, oils, and oilseeds (excluding shipments) reached an all-time high of 4 billion pounds in terms of oil equivalent in the 1954-55 marketing year. This volume exceeded the previous high of 1953-54 by over 500 million pounds.

Record quantities of cottonseed oil, soybeans, inedible tallow and greases, and butter were shipped abroad. In fact, the 700 million pounds of cottonseed oil was three-fourths larger than the high level of last year; the 60 million bushels of soybeans broke last year's record by 50 percent; and the 1.3 billion pounds of inedible tallow and greases exceeded the previous year's record by 7 percent. Tallow and greases comprised about one-third of all fats and oils exported in 1954-55. Lard exports at 528 million pounds were up one-third from last year. (Text cont'd., next page.)

UNITED STATES: Exports of fats, oils, and oilseeds for crop marketing years, beginning October 1, 1952-53, 1953-54, and 1954-55

Commodity	Unit	1952-53	1953-54 1/	1954-55 1/
	(1,000)			
Coconut oil 2/	Pounds	16,081	10,973	9,580
Cottonseed	"	24,746	29,086	30,779
Cottonseed oil 2/	"	50,673	398,437	3/706,634
Flaxseed	Bushels	21	6,152	6,684
Linseed oil 2/	Pounds	4,041	430,272	211,923
Peanuts 4/	"	2,339	168,577	1,888
Peanut oil 2/	"	1,282	8,698	649
Soybeans	Bushels	31,908	39,663	60,149
Soybean oil 2/	Pounds	93,402	71,259	50,264
Lard	"	466,173	397,484	527,659
Tallow, edible	"	14,767	21,953	5,610
Tallow and greases, inedible 5/	"	1,070,176	1,185,777	1,263,422
Fish oils 6/	"	92,059	157,439	126,424
All other including butter and soap (oil content) 3/	"	166,545	185,795	306,431
Total oil equivalent	"	2,300,175	3,483,501	4,007,115

1/ Preliminary. 2/ The sum of crude and refined.
3/ Includes exports from CCC holdings not reported by the Census.
4/ Includes shelled and unshelled peanuts.
5/ Includes inedible tallow, animal greases and fats, and animal oils.
6/ Includes fish oils, fish oils hydrogenated, and fish liver oils.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

On the other hand, while exports of linseed oil continued heavy, reflecting sales for export from stocks held by the Commodity Credit Corporation, they were less than half the 430 million-pound record shipped in 1953-54. Exports of soybean oil were almost one-third less than a year ago and fish oils were down one-fifth. Peanut, peanut oil, and edible tallow exports also declined sharply.

PALM OIL AND KERNEL EXPORTS FROM MALAYA WILL SET NEW RECORD IN 1955

Exports of both palm oil and palm kernels from Malaya will exceed the previous (1954) record this year. With 3 months to go, shipments of oil through September had already reached 69,000 short tons, over 25 percent more than total 1954 exports. Exports of palm kernels through September, at 15,544 tons, were just 168 tons less than the 1954 total.

While shipments of oil to India and Canada--currently Malay's second and third-largest markets--were at less than half of last year's level, the United Kingdom took nearly six times as much palm oil as it did during the first 9 months of 1954. Similarly, the boost in palm kernel exports from Malaya was due entirely to the fact that shipments to the United Kingdom went up from nothing in 1954 to over 4,000 tons through September, 1955.

The current year's production of palm kernel oil is still being estimated at 63,800 short tons. In view of the level of exports, it must be assumed that there was a sizable carryover from last year, or that unreported imports of oil from North Sumatra are of considerable magnitude.

MALAYA: Palm oil and palm kernel exports, average 1935-39, annual 1954, and January-September 1954-55

(Short tons)

Country	Palm oil				Palm kernels			
	Average 1935-39	1954	Jan.-Sept. 1954	Jan.-Sept. 1955 1/	Average 1935-39	1954	Jan.-Sept. 1954	Jan.-Sept. 1955 1/
Canada	9,599	13,043	11,514	5,800	-	-	-	-
Denmark	-	-	-	-	226	2,036	1,885	-
Germany, Rep. of	-	1,303	1,303	-	1,410	1,781	761	1,890
France	-	-	-	-	-	2/3,270	2/3,270	2/3,869
India	908	14,214	12,293	5,485	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	-	4,969	4,969	-	1,304	7,852	4,990	4,801
United Kingdom	23,270	18,973	10,263	57,250	2,115	-	-	4,410
Other countries	13,583	3/2,713	4/2,648	379	3,077	3/ 773	577	5/ 574
Total	47,360	55,215	42,990	68,914	8,132	15,712	11,483	15,544

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes shipments to Corsica. 3/ Exports of palm oil to Belgium amounted to 1,433 tons; palm kernels - 560 tons. 4/ Exports of palm oil to Belgium amounted to 1,433 tons. 5/ All to Greece.

Compiled from official sources.

MALAYA COCONUT OIL EXPORTS UP 70 PERCENT; COPRA PRODUCTION, EXPORTS, IMPORTS ALSO UP

Coconut oil exports from Malaya rose to nearly 66,000 long tons in the third quarter of 1955, bringing the 9-month total to 106,000 tons, 70 percent over the level of a year ago. While shipments to Burma continued to run a little more than one-third of last year, exports to other major markets--notably China, India, and Western Europe--show sizable increases. On the supply side, these stepped-up exports have been made possible by larger Malayan production of copra during the third quarter and by greater copra imports from Indonesia. The latter, which were barely larger than last year's through the first half of the year, suddenly jumped 35,000 tons during the third quarter. (Text cont'd., next page.)

Table 1 - MALAYA: Copra exports and imports, average 1935-39, annual, 1954, July-September and January-September 1954-55

(Long tons)

Country	Average 1935-39	1954 1/	July-September 1/ 1954	July-September 1/ 1955	January-September 1/ 1954	January-September 1/ 1955
Exports						
Czechoslovakia	652	-	-	-	-	-
Denmark	2,050	4,350	-	2,400	4,050	4,300
France	8,578	4,100	350	1,348	3,700	2,346
Italy	11,322	3,550	1,175	100	2,625	200
Netherlands	28,956	10,337	474	10,345	6,014	17,965
Norway	4,703	300	-	1,275	300	2,400
Poland	3,358	1,500	-	-	-	-
Spain	-	561	-	4,975	561	9,827
Sweden	1,850	12,525	3,100	1,600	11,375	3,200
United Kingdom	57,750	100	-	-	100	-
Germany, Rep. of	2/ 46,384	6,622	-	3,598	3,597	6,696
Other Europe	2,825	3/ 4,222	4/ 150	4/ 300	5/ 3,722	4/ 800
India	535	13,166	6,509	442	9,649	684
Japan	2,483	-	-	-	-	-
Other Asia	959	6/ 1,850	6/ 300	2,582	6/ 1,474	4,657
Other countries	19,286	1,715	351	838	886	1,883
Total	191,691	64,898	12,409	30,303	48,053	54,958
Imports						
British possessions	10,617	4,396	1,853	1,312	3,285	2,270
Indonesia	105,500	117,745	32,847	85,192	86,491	141,402
Other countries	2,134	7/ 10,228	2,432	1,369	5,920	3,361
Total	118,251	132,369	37,132	88,373	95,696	147,033

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Total Germany. 3/ Includes 3,487 tons to Finland.
4/ All to Finland. 5/ Includes 3,487 tons to Finland. 6/ All to Iraq.
7/ Includes 4,988 tons from Thailand.
Compiled from official statistics.

Exports of copra are also still running ahead of those last year, though not at so great a rate as during the first semester. At the current rate of exports, Malaya should be able to dispose easily of its estimated 1955 coconut oil output of 125,000 to 130,000 tons.

Following a decline at the beginning of the year, copra prices appear to have settled at a level of M$ 26 to 27.75 per picul of 133-1/3 lbs. (U.S. $ 144 to 154 per ton) in October and November. Oil prices have also remained fairly steady. On November 15, crude oil in bulk was quoted in Singapore at M$ 40.25 per picul (10 cents per pound), refined oil in new drums at M$ 51.50 (12.8 cents).

Table 2 - MALAYA: Cocunut oil exports and imports, average 1935-39, annual 1954, July-September and January-September 1954-55

(Long tons)

Country	Average 1935-39	1954 1/	July-Sept. 1/ 1954	July-Sept. 1/ 1955	Jan.-Sept. 1/ 1954	Jan.-Sept. 1/ 1955
Exports						
France	100	-	-	1,210	-	1,936
Italy	20	6,253	1,081	7,672	4,488	13,230
Netherlands	822	2,403	-	7,244	2,204	10,699
Sweden	185	1,739	-	1,147	1,739	1,963
United Kingdom	8,857	2,506	1,115	7,971	1,595	12,316
Rep. of Germany	100	2,952	-	6,062	2,951	9,799
Other Europe	190	2/ 990	-	1,134	2/ 990	1,434
Burma	3,908	26,029	10,943	5,128	20,845	8,355
China	2,028	19,757	7,458	13,389	14,358	22,864
Formosa	-	924	89	443	924	886
Hong Kong	1,391	890	241	985	715	1,383
India	22,500	11,847	1,721	8,940	8,453	14,482
Indonesia	3,119	-	-	-	-	-
Pakistan	-	385	80	444	355	880
Egypt	3,295	813	253	411	758	732
Union of South Africa	325	601	-	2,059	601	3,001
Other countries	269	1,137	203	1,462	659	2,429
Total	47,109	79,226	23,184	65,701	61,635	106,389
Imports						
British possessions	16	458	70	411	280	616
Indonesia	328	258	73	73	186	73
Other countries	229	2	-	-	-	38
Total	573	718	143	484	466	727

1/ Preliminary. 2/ All to Yugoslavia.

Compiled from official statistics.

The marked improvement in the copra supply from Indonesia may be a reflection of recent trade talks between the Indonesian and Malayan Governments. It is understood that Indonesia--anxious to derive greater benefits from Singapore's entrepot trade in Indonesian copra--may have agreed to liberalize its copra exports to Singapore on condition either that the copra would be crushed rather than re-exported, or that Indonesia would participate in the dollar earnings from such re-exports. This and other Indonesian-Malayan trade matters are reportedly now being studied in London.

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AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRODUCTION ESTIMATE REVISED

Total 1955-56 Australian wool production, greasy basis, is now estimated at 1,414 million pounds, as compared to the July estimate of 1,331 million pounds, according to a revised estimate released by the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia.

STRONG TONE PREVAILS IN LONDON WOOL SALES

The most recent series of London wool sales, ending December 12, closed on a strong tone that had prevailed throughout the series. Competition was brisk, both from the home trade and the continent. In the closing sales 64's - 70's medium fleeces brought $1.35 per pound, clean basis, and 46's crossbred were quoted at $0.89.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO U.S. FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE

Issued recently and available free upon request from the Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

World Centrifugal Sugar Production Up About 600 Thousand Tons. Foreign Ag. Circ. FS-6-55

World Exports of Palm Oil and Palm Kernels at Record Levels. Foreign Ag. Circ. FFO-19-55

World Jute Supply Considerably Larger in 1955-56. Foreign Ag. Circ. FVF-13-55

Current Agricultural Situation in Venezuela. Foreign Ag. Circ. FATP-44-55

Canada's 1955-56 Agricultural Trade Position Strong. Foreign Ag. Circ. FATP-41-55

Estimated World Production of Leaf Tobacco Harvested in Calendar Year 1955, With Comparisons. Foreign Ag. Circ. FT-48-55

WORLD BEAN PRODUCTION DOWN IN 1955

The 1955 bean production in the United States and 16 foreign countries is estimated at 75.5 million bags. This is 5 percent less than the 79.2 million bags estimated for these same countries last year. Production in these 17 countries represents about 59 percent of the world total production. In addition to the 17 countries, world production includes such major-producing areas as China, Eastern Europe, India, and others.

BEANS, DRY, EDIBLE: Acreage and production in specified countries, average 1935-39, annual 1954-55

Country	Acreage			Production		
	Average 1935-39	1954	1955 1/	Average 1935-39	1954	1955 1/
	1,000 acres			1,000 bags		
North America						
Canada	68	72	81	770	617	772
Mexico	1,419	2,718	2,471	2,579	7,937	7,900
Cuba	125	2/ 75	2/ 75	950	485	595
United States 3/	1,915	1,572	1,605	14,530	18,866	19,064
Total	3,527	4,437	4,232	18,829	27,905	28,331
Europe						
Austria	2	3	3	30	43	35
Belgium-Luxembourg	8	1	1	168	32	29
France	424	324	313	3,069	2,183	2,314
Germany, Rep. of	4/ 5	5	4	3/ 73	75	71
Greece	63	166	165	369	1,088	1,030
Italy	1,228	1,092	2/1,000	3,478	3,600	3,086
Portugal	415	885	883	856	662	759
Netherlands	18	2/ 4	2/ 4	307	237	215
Spain	639	2/ 500	2/ 500	3,705	2,200	2,500
Total	2,802	2,980	2,873	12,055	10,120	10,039
Asia						
Japan	219	309	304	1,919	1,611	2,822
Turkey	185	225	250	1,390	2,227	2,469
Total	404	534	554	3,309	3,838	5,291
South America						
Brazil	2,354	4,633	2/4,500	18,155	35,620	30,000
Chile	214	186	192	1,744	1,750	1,880
Total	2,568	4,819	4,692	19,899	37,370	31,880
GRAND TOTAL	9,301	12,770	12,351	54,092	79,233	75,541

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Estimated. 3/ U.S. figures, uncleaned basis, garbanzos excluded. 4/ All of pre-World War II Germany.

Almost two-thirds of the production in the 17 countries is grown in Brazil and the United States. Japan reports an increase of 75 percent in the 1955 production of Otenasha beans over 1954. This increase brings Japanese production of this type of bean to a 25-year high record. Japan will have some of this type available for export, likely to Europe, in 1956. The exportable quantity will not be large, however.

The 1956 Chilean crop is off to a poor start, due to cold and drought. Planting has been delayed 6 weeks. There have been disappointing bean harvests in East Africa. The import markets of Western Europe quote relatively high prices for beans, and the United Kingdom is negotiating a trade agreement with Hungary which may include exports of beans from Hungary to the United Kingdom in 1956. Central America shows symptoms of strong demand for beans from the United States in 1956.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS of the Foreign Agricultural Service: See page 731.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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